

Customer No.: 31561
Docket No.: 13063-US-PA
Application No.: 10/710,843

REMARKS

Present Status of the Application

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 2, 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hoss et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0248334 A1, "Hoss" hereinafter). Furthermore, the Office Action rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoss as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Hata et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0245540 A1). Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoss as applied to claim 1 above in view of Ohtsuka et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2006/0175621 A1). Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hoss as applied to claim 1, and further in view of Ueda et al. (U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0218414 A1). In addition, claims 8-17 are allowable.

Applicants have canceled claims 1-7. Because claims 8-17 are allowable, the amendments above are presented in a bona fide effort to eliminate all issues raised in the Action and thereby place this case in condition for allowance.

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CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that the pending claims 8-17 are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Date :

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